

and for each particular  $f$  the measure may be so chosen that (moreover)

$$7.13 \quad \int_B \log |f(x)| m_s(dx) \geq \log |f(s)|.$$

Naturally, if for some reason there is for some  $s$  only one measure satisfying 7.12, then 7.13 holds for that measure.

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## FAMILIES OF CURVES

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Amasa Forrester in [1] proved the following theorem of a mixed Euclidean and topological character. If  $\phi$  is a continuous map without fixed points on the Euclidean  $n$ -sphere such that  $\phi^2$  is the identity, then the chords  $P\phi(P)$  for all points  $P$  of the sphere completely fill the interior of this sphere.

The object of this note is to generalize this theorem to a purely topological statement.

First we recall the definition of retract. If  $B \subset A$  are two spaces, then  $B$  is a retract of  $A$  if there is  $r: A \rightarrow B$  which leaves fixed all points of  $B$ . (If  $X$  and  $Y$  are spaces the symbol  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  shall denote a continuous map from  $X$  to  $Y$ .)

Let  $I$  denote the unit interval. If  $F: B \times I \rightarrow A$  and  $t \in I$ , define  $F_t: B \rightarrow A$  by  $F_t(b) = F(b, t)$  for all  $b \in B$ .

OBSERVATION. If  $F: B \times I \rightarrow A$  and if  $B$  is a retract of  $A$  by the map  $r$  and if  $p, q \in I$ , then  $rF_p$  is homotopic to  $rF_q$ .

In fact such a homotopy is provided by  $G: B \times I \rightarrow B$  defined by

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$G(b, t) = rF(b, p + (q - p)t)$ . Clearly  $G_0 = rF_p$  and  $G_1 = rF_q$ .

Now let  $E^{n+1}$  be the topological  $n + 1$  dimensional cell and  $S^n$  its boundary (an  $n$  dimensional topological sphere). Now, for any point  $P \in E^{n+1} - S^n$ ,  $S^n$  is a retract of  $E^{n+1} - \{P\}$  by the map

$$r: E^{n+1} - \{P\} \rightarrow S^n$$

defined by carrying over the central projection of the Euclidean cell by a homeomorphism. This fact and the observation yield:

**PROPOSITION 1.** *If  $f_i: S^n \rightarrow S^n, i = 0, 1$ , are not homotopic and if  $F: S^n \times I \rightarrow E^{n+1}$  satisfies  $F(P, i) = f_i(P), i = 0, 1, \text{ all } P \in S^n$ , then  $F$  is onto  $E^{n+1}$ .*

**PROPOSITION 2 (generalization of Forrester's theorem).** *Let  $\phi: S^n \rightarrow S^n$  be of period  $p \neq 1$ . Let  $F: S^n \times I \rightarrow E^{n+1}$  satisfy (a)  $F(P, 0) = P$  and (b)  $F(P, 1) = F(\phi(P), 1)$ . Then  $F$  is onto  $E^{n+1}$ .*

**PROOF.** Observe first that it is sufficient to prove this for  $p$  prime. For if  $p$  were not prime and  $q$  is a prime dividing  $p$ , then the hypothesis of Proposition 2 is satisfied with  $\phi$  replaced by  $\phi^{p/q}$  and the latter is of prime period. In the following proof therefore  $p$  is taken to be prime.

Assume on the contrary that there is a point  $Q \in E^{n+1} - F(S^n \times I)$ . By (a),  $Q \notin S^n$  and by a previous remark there is a retraction  $r: E^{n+1} \rightarrow \{Q\} \rightarrow S^n$ . Regarding  $F$  as a map into  $E^{n+1} - Q$  we would have  $rF_0$  homotopic to  $rF_1$ . Now  $rF_0$  is the identity map of  $S^n$  (hence of degree 1) while  $rF_1$  has the property that  $(rF_1)\phi = rF_1$  on account of condition (b).

To conclude the proof it shall be shown that any map  $g: S^n \rightarrow S^n$  satisfying  $g\phi = g$  has a degree divisible by  $p$ .

By [2] there is a cycle of the form  $c + \phi(c) + \phi^2(c) + \dots + \phi^{p-1}(c)$  in a generator of  $H^n(S^n, J_p)$ . Calling this cycle  $z$  we have  $g(z) = pc = 0 \pmod{p}$ . Thus the degree of  $g$  is divisible by  $p$ . This concludes the proof of Proposition 2.

Forrester's family of straight lines may be described by

$$F: S^n \times I \rightarrow E^{n+1}$$

where  $F(P, t)$  is the point  $Q$  on the line segment joining  $P$  to  $\phi(P)$  such that  $PQ/P\phi(P) = t/2$ .

If the notion of homotopy is translated into the language of a continuous family of curves then Proposition 2 becomes:

**PROPOSITION 2'.** *If (1)  $\phi: S^n \rightarrow S^n$  satisfies the condition stated in Proposition 2 and (2) from each point  $P$  of  $S^n$  there begins one curve of*

$E^{n+1}$  so that the curves beginning at  $P$  and  $\phi(P)$  have the same terminal point and (3) the parametrization of these curves depend continuously on  $P$ , then this family of curves fills  $E^{n+1}$ .

PROPOSITION 3. Let  $R^n$  refer to  $n$  dimensional Euclidean space. If for each direction in  $R^n$  there is given in a continuous manner precisely one straight line with that direction, then this family of lines fills  $R^n$ .

PROOF. Compactify  $R^n$  to  $E^n$  by adding two points at infinity for each direction in  $R^n$ . Then apply Proposition 2 or 2' with  $p=2$ .

PROPOSITION 4. Let  $A$  be a compact subset of  $R^n$ . A necessary and sufficient condition that  $A$  be a convex set with the property that each support plane has precisely one contact point is that there exists a continuous choice function on the set of  $n-1$  dimensional planes, meeting  $A$ , with values in  $A$ . Moreover any such function is onto  $A$ .

PROOF. Let  $A$  be a convex subset of  $R^n$  with the property that each plane of support has one point of contact. Assign to each cross-section its centroid. By Proposition 2 with  $p=2$  it is easy to show that this function is onto  $A$  (compare to p. 13 of [3]).

The proof of sufficiency is left to the reader. In a subsequent paper the intersection properties of families of curves will be considered.

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